



*Orgl Presbyterian  
Church of U.S.*

22 JUL 1976

*Orgl Missionaries  
(orig under Orgl)  
- Pres.*

Mr. James H. Andrews  
Stated Clerk  
Office of the General Assembly  
The Presbyterian Church in the  
United States  
341 Ponce de Leon Ave. NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Dear Mr. Andrews:

Thank you for your letter of July 12 and the text of the "Public Policy Statement on Government Intelligence Agencies and American Missionaries" approved by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

Over the years, the Central Intelligence Agency has had relationships with individuals in many walks of American life. These relationships have reflected the desire of Americans to help their country, were maintained with the clear intent of furthering the Agency's foreign intelligence mission, and have not been aimed at improperly influencing any American institution.

Responding to genuine concern which has been expressed about CIA relations with missionaries and clergy, and in order to eliminate even the appearance of possible impropriety, on February 11 of this year I issued a statement to the effect that the CIA has no paid or contractual relationship with any American clergyman or missionary, and that this practice will be continued as a matter of policy. In other words, the Agency does not now nor will it in the future use American churchmen for intelligence purposes.

I believe, however, that any American citizen has the right to volunteer information to his government without expectation of pay or favor, and the CIA will continue to welcome information provided by individuals under these conditions.

I am confident that these facts will help clarify your interpretation of this aspect of the conduct of U.S. intelligence services. You may also wish to refer to the statement in the U.S. Senate by Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon (recorded on p. S7901 *et seq.* of the *Congressional Record* of May 25, 1976).

Thank you for sharing your views with us.

Sincerely,

/s/ George Bush

George Bush  
Director

AFalkiewicz:mb 20 July 1976

1-DCI Jennifer  
1-ER  
1-A/DCI  
1-EA/DDO  
1-DDCI

see 64.30